

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 STATE 030575
ORIGIN HA-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 IO-13 ISO-00 SIG-01 AID-05
/047 R

DRAFTED BY HA/ORM:LROSENBLATT/JBROH-KAHN:MM
APPROVED BY HA/ORM:SCLO'MAN
EA/RA:BENNETT (SUBSTANCE)

-----055453 041822Z /43

R 040845Z PEB 78
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO ALL NATO CAPITALS
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
AMEMBASSY BANGKOK
AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR
AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
AMEMBASSY MANILA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY CANBERRA
AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 030575

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SREF

SUBJECT: INAUGURATION OF CANADIAN BOAT REFUGEE PROGRAM

1. BEGIN SUMMARY. CANADIAN EMBASSY OFFICER MANFRED VON NOSTITZ BRIEFED HA OFFICERS JAN. 30 RE NEW GOC ,ROGRAM BE-
GINNING IN JANUARY TO ADMIT UP TO 50 INDOCHINESE BOAT PEF-
UGEE NUCLEAR FAMILIES MONTHLY. VON NOSTITZ EXPECTED IT
WOULD TAKE TIME FOR GOC TO BEGIN ACCEPTING REFUGEES UNDER
NEW PROGRAM. END SUMMARY.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 STATE 030575

2. VON NOSTITZ DESCRIBED FOR USG BACKGROUND, BUT NOT FOR
PUBLIC USE, DETAILS OF NEW GOC PROGRAM BEGINNING IN JANUARY.
IMMIGRATION OFFICE IN SINGAPORE WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR AC-
CEPTING 35 BOAT FAMILIES MONTHLY FROM THAILAND, MALAYSIA,
AND CONCEIVABLY SINGAPORE. TMMIGRATION OFFICE IN MANILA

WILL TAKE TEN FAMILIES FROM ,HILL,PINES AND FIVE FROM HONG KONG MONTHLY. THIS INITIAL DISTRIBUTION IS SUBJECT TO RE-ALLOCATION AFTER GOC SSES HOW PROGRAM WORKS.

3. DEFINITION OF FAMILY UNDER ,ROGRAM INCLUDES PARENTS, AND UNMARRIED CHILDREN. GOC CRITERIA FOR REFUYE"S EMPHASIZE EMPLOYABILITY AND ,ERSONAL SKILLS. ANY TTES TO CANADA WILL ALSO BE WEIGHED.

4. THE QUEBEC PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENT HAS OFFERED TO RESETTLE 30 PERCENT OF REFUGEES COMING TO CANADA. QHEBEC IMMIGRATION OFFICIALS WILL TRAVEL TO SOUTHEAST ASIA TO MAKE SELECTIONS. VON NOSTITZ SAID HE THOUGHT THEY OULD INFORM GOC EMBASSIES OF THEIR PRESENCE BUT CANADIAN OFFICIALS ,REFER THAT IF PROVNCIAL IMMIGRATION TEAMS CONTACT U.S. REFUGEE OFFICIALS DIRECTLY, THAT LATTER ADVISE GOC EMBASSIES.

5. VON NOSTITZ SAID IT WILL PROBABLY TAKE A WHILE FOR CANADIANS TO GEAR UP TO ACCEPT MONTHLY QUOTA OF UP TO 50 FAMILIES. IF QUOTA FOR ANY ONE MONTH IS NOT USED UP IT MAY NOT BE CARRIED OVER AND ADDED TO QUOTA FOR LATER MONTH. DEPT. WILL BE CONTACTING CANADIANS ON THIS AFTER PROGRAM HAS BEEN IN EFFECT FOR SOME TIME, IF QUOTAS REMAIN UNFILLED.

6. HA OFFICIALS EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR THE CANADIAN ,ROGRAM (PARTICULARLY AT THIS TIME OF HIGH DOMESTIC UNEMPLOYMENT IN CANADA) AND REITERATED HOW USEFUL THIS ONGOING CANADIAN COMMITMENT WILL BE IN GAINING SU,PURT FOR LONG-CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 03 STATE 030575

TERM U.S. REFUGEE PROGRAM FROM THE CONGRESS. HA OFFICIALS STRESSED THAT U.S. MTSSIONS IN THE AREA WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO BE OF MAXIMUM ASSISTANCE IN HELPING THE CANADIANS SELECT THEIR MONTHLY QUOTA OF BOAT REFUGEES. VON NOSTITZ WAS TOLD THAT IF THE CANADIANS DESIRE, ANY U.S. POST CAN MAKE REFUGEE DOSSIERS AVAILABLE TO THE CANADIAMS AND THAT UNLESS A REFUGEE HAS CAT I (CLOSE RELATIVE) STATUS UNDER U.S. PROGRAM THE CANADIANS AND ANY OTHER FOREIGN REFUGEE PROGRAM WILL GET FIRST CRACK AT THE REFUGEE REGARDLESS OF REFUGEE PREFERENCES.

7. HA OFFICIALS NOTED THAT THE CANADIAN ,ROGRAM MAY BE OF HELP IN THE ONGOING UNHCR EFFORT TO ESTABLISH A TRANSIT CENTER IN SINGAPORE.

8. VON NOSTITZ SAID GOC :XPECTED DRV WOULD CRITICIZE CANADA FOR INDUCING REFUGEES TO FLEE VIETNAM. ALTHOUGH GOC DOES NOT SUBSCRIBE TO VIE; THAT RESETTLEMENT PROGRAMS ARE PRIMARY INDUCEMENT FOR REFUGEES TO FLEE, NEVERTHELESS, GOC DOES NOT WISH ITS PROGRAM TO BE PUBLICIZED. VON NOSTITZ MENTIONED CONCERN ABOUT VOA VIETNAMESE LANGUAGE 0ROADCASTS.

HA OFFICIALS ASSURED HIM THAT VOA DOES NOT GIVE REFUGEE PROGRAMS SPECIAL PLAY BUT ONLY MENTIONS THEM ROUTINELY WHEN THEY ARE IN THE NE'S AND ALSO CARRIES NEWS STORIES ABOUT DANGERS AND TRIALS OF REFUGEES ESCAPING.

9. VON NOSTITZ ALSO SAID GOC HAD URGED DRV FOR SOME TIME TO ALLOW EMIGRATION FOR FAMILY REUNIFICATION, BUT SRV HAD STONEWALLED ON THIS SO FAR AND HE DID NOT ANTICIPATE IT WOULD ALLOW SUCH EMIGRATION FOR YEARS.

10. NEW GOC PROGRAM IS INITIALLY AIMED AT BOAT REFUGEES ONLY. VON NOSTITZ SAID GOC WILL CONSIDER OVERLAND REFUGEES WITH CLOSE ASSOCIATIONS TO CANADA UNDER EXISTING GOC PROGRAM TO ADMIT 450 REFUGEE CASES, A PROGRAM WHICH HAS MOVED SLOWLY SO FAR.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 04 STATE 030575

11. FOR SINGAPORE: EMBASSY SHOULD CONTACT CANADIAN IMMIGRATION OFFICE AND EXPRESS HOPE THAT CANADIANS WILL BEGIN LOOKING OVER BOAT REFUGEE CASELOAD IN MALAYSIA AND THAILAND AS SOON AS FEASIBLE. THIS WILL GIVE GOC WIDEST POSSIBLE CHOICE OF REFUGEES BEFORE U.S. PAROLE PROGRAM BEGINS PROCESSING OF REMAINING REFUGEES NOW ON THE BEACHES WHO HAVE NO OTHER OFFER OF RESETTLEMENT.

12. FOR KUALA LUMPUR, HONG KONG, BANGKOK AND MANILA: EMBASSIES SHOULD CONTACT CANADIAN EMBASSIES TO OFFER ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE AS CANADIANS START THEIR NEW PROGRAM.
VANCE

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** CONFIDENTIAL

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DEBRIEFINGS, INAUGURATION, PROGRAMS (PROJECTS), REFUGEES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 feb 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978STATE030575
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: KAHN:MM
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: n/a
Expiration:
Film Number: D780054-0421
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t197802116/aaaafteg.tel
Line Count: 154
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON MICROFILM, TEXT ON-LINE
Message ID: 58cc21cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN HA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 may 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3466027
Secure: OPEN
Status: <DBA CORRECTED> gwr 970903
Subject: INAUGURATION OF CANADIAN BOAT REFUGEE PROGRAM
TAGS: SREF, CA, SREF, (VON NOSTITZ, MANFRED)
To: BANGKOK MULTIPLE MULTIPLE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/58cc21cf-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014